

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04

CEA-01 L-03 H-02 IO-13 DODE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 /097 W
----- 047761

R 191015Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2281

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS

REF: A STATE 204078 B MANILA 12444

1. EMBASSY ASSUMES THAT BASIS OF REFTEL A'S INQUIRE IS "FAR
EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW" ARTICLE IN ISSUE OF AUGUST 13.
FEER ARTICLE CLAIMS TO QUOTE FROM CONFIDENTIAL ASEAN MEMORANDUM
DELIVERED TO AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR. IF SUCH
MEMORANDUM EXISTS, THE AUSTRALIANS HERE DO NOT KNOW ABOUT IT.
EMBOFF SPOKE TO R B HINES, SENIOR TRADE COMMISSIONER,
AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, WHO SAID THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT NOTHING
SO FORMAL AS A PROPOSAL ON AUSTRALIAN-ASEAN TALKS HAD OCCURRED.
THERE HAVE BEEN VARIOUS PROPOSALS ORIGINATED BY REPS OF
ASEAN COUNTRIES FOR JOINT CONSULTATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA AS
WELL AS WITH OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, BUT NEITHER AUSTRALIA
OR ASEAN AS AN ORGANIZATION HAS NEVER FORMALLY PROPOSED
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SUCH CONSULTATIONS.

2. HINES SAID THAT MESSAGES FROM GENEVA AND WASHINGTON OFTEN CREDIT ASEAN WITH A DEGREE OF COORDINATION ON ECONOMIC POLICY THAT JUST DOES NOT EXIST AND IS FAR FROM COMING INTO BEING. REPS OF SINGAPORE, WHICH WOULD PROBABLY GAIN MOST FROM ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OFTEN GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON REGIONAL TRADE ARRANGEMENTS WHEN NO ONE ELSE SEES PROGRESS. UNTIL ASEAN IS MUCH FURTHER ALONG THE ROAD TO AGREEMENT ON MEANINGFUL ECONOMIC POLICIES, HINES BELIEVES THAT THERE IS VERY LITTLE POINT IN CONSULTATION.

3. COMMENT: PERHAPS CANBERRA OR KUALA LUMPUR CAN TELL US HOW FORMAL THE APPROACH FOR CONSULTATIONS WAS AND HOW OFFICIAL THE REBUFF.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO23331
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760318-0285
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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